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Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly

Venezuela:* draft resolution

Twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 56/205 of 21 December 2001 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001,

Recalling also the Habitat Agenda[1] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[2] which was adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth special session,

Emphasizing the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by the year 2020,

Recalling the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[3] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[4] as well as the Monterrey Consensus,[5] adopted at the International Conference on Financing for Development,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[3] A/CONF.199/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[5] A/CONF.198/11, chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

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Noting the holding of the first session of the World Urban Forum, a non-legislative technical forum in which experts can exchange views in years when the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) does not meet, and the fifth meeting of the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, an advisory body to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat,

Taking note of efforts made by UN-Habitat to forge partnerships with other United Nations funds and programmes and with international financial institutions such as the World Bank,

Recognizing the urgent need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in the new millennium to ensure timely and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant Millennium development goal, particularly in developing countries,

Reiterating the call to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to increase her efforts to strengthen the Foundation in order to achieve its primary operative objective, as set out in its resolution 3327 (XXIX), of supporting the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including supporting shelter, related infrastructure-development programmes and housing finance institutions and mechanisms, particularly in developing countries,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),[6] on the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,[7] and on coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[8]

1. *Underlines* the commitments made by Governments to implement the Habitat Agenda,[1] the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium[2] and the Millennium development goal of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020;

2. *Underlines also* the commitments made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including the commitment to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation, and requests UN-Habitat to support developing countries in implementing the targets in order to increase access to clean water, sanitation and adequate shelter;

3. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen and institutionalize national Habitat committees as broad-based platforms for the preparation and implementation of their national plans of action based on the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant Millennium development goal;

4. *Urges* all countries to strengthen and mainstream shelter and human settlements development activities in their national development planning frameworks;

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[6] A/57/271.
[7] A/57/272.
[8] E/2002/48.

5. *Reiterates* the invitation to Governments and Habitat Agenda partners to facilitate the dissemination of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

6. *Reiterates also* the agreement by Governments to intensify dialogue where possible, including, inter alia, through the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, on all issues related to effective decentralization and strengthening of local authorities, in support of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in conformity with the legal framework and policies of each country;

7. *Encourages* Governments and their Habitat Agenda partners to evaluate and report to UN-Habitat on their implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

8. *Calls on* developed countries and relevant international institutions and agencies to assist developing countries in their efforts to implement the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and in achieving the relevant Millennium development goal through the provision of additional resources, capacity-building and transfer of technology;

9. *Welcomes* increased cooperation between UN-Habitat and the United Nations Development Programme, including the envisaged placement of locally recruited UN-Habitat programme managers in selected United Nations Development Programme offices in developing countries in consultation with the relevant Governments;

10. *Reiterates* the invitation to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to implement, in accordance with paragraph 66 of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, the establishment of the Habitat Agenda task manager system to allow better monitoring and mutual reinforcement of actions taken by international agencies in support of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

11. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat to strengthen the implementation of the Water for African Cities programme, as requested by the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

12. *Invites* Governments and relevant international institutions and agencies to increase their support to UN-Habitat to enable it to function as a fully fledged United Nations programme;

13. *Acknowledges* with appreciation the ongoing efforts of the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to strengthen the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and invites Governments that are in a position to do so, and their Habitat Agenda partners, to increase their financial contributions to the Foundation in a predictable manner;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a consolidated report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly".